

In the Claims:

A complete listing of all of the claims 1-45 in the present application is as follows:

1. (Previously Amended) A stage assembly that moves a device an X stroke along an X axis and along a Y axis, the stage assembly comprising:

a guide base;

a stage that retains the device; and

a Y mover that moves the stage only along the Y axis relative to the guide base, the Y mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage; wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the X axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the X axis, and wherein the magnet length is sufficiently long so that the magnet interacts with the conductor over the range of the X stroke and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the X axis over the range of the X stroke.

2. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 1 wherein the magnet length is at least as long as the combination of the X stroke along the X axis plus the conductor length.

3. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 1 wherein the reaction component includes the magnet and the moving component includes the conductor.

4. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 1 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets.

5. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 1 wherein the reaction component includes the conductor and the moving component includes the magnet.

6. (Previously Amended) The stage assembly of claim 1 further comprising an X housing mover that independently moves the stage the X stroke along the X axis relative to the guide base.

7. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 1 wherein the magnet length is sufficiently long so that substantially the entire conductor remains within the magnetic fields of the magnet throughout the entire X stroke.

8. (Original) An exposure apparatus including the stage assembly of claim 1.

9. (Original) An object manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 8.

10. (Original) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 8.

11. (Previously Amended) A stage assembly that moves a device an X stroke along an X axis and along a Y axis, the stage assembly comprising:

a guide base;

a stage that retains the device; and

a Y mover that moves the stage only along the Y axis relative to the guide base, the Y mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage; wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the X axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the X axis, and wherein the conductor length is sufficiently long so that the conductor interacts with the magnet over the range of the X stroke and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the X axis over the range of the X stroke.

12. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 11 wherein the conductor length is at least as long as the combination of the X stroke along the X axis plus the magnet length.

13. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 11 wherein the reaction component includes the magnet and the moving component includes the conductor.

14. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 11 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets.

15. (Original) The stage assembly of claim 11 wherein the reaction component includes the conductor and the moving component includes the magnet.

16. (Previously Amended) The stage assembly of claim 11 further comprising an X housing mover that independently moves the stage the X stroke along the X axis relative to the guide base.

17. (Original) An exposure apparatus including the stage assembly of claim 11.

18. (Original) An object manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 17.

19. (Original) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 17.

20. (Previously Amended) A method for making a stage assembly that moves a device an X stroke along an X axis and along a Y axis, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a stage that retains the device;  
providing a guide base; and

moving the stage only along the Y axis relative to the guide base with a Y mover, the Y mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage; wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the X axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the X axis, and wherein the magnet length is sufficiently long so that the magnet interacts with the conductor over the range of the X stroke and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the X axis over the range of the X stroke.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the magnet length is at least as long as the combination of the X stroke along the X axis plus the conductor length.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the step of moving the stage includes the step of providing a reaction component that includes the magnet and the step of providing a moving component that includes the conductor.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of moving the stage an X stroke along the X axis relative to the guide base with an X mover.

24. (Original) A method for making an exposure apparatus that forms an image on a wafer, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an irradiation apparatus that irradiates the wafer with radiation to form the image on the wafer; and

providing the stage assembly made by the method of claim 20.

25. (Original) A method of making a wafer utilizing the exposure apparatus made by the method of claim 24.

26. (Original) A method of making an object including at least the exposure process; wherein the exposure process utilizes the exposure apparatus made by the method of claim 24.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for making a stage assembly that moves a device an X stroke along an X axis and along a Y axis, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a stage that retains the device;

providing a guide base; and

moving the stage only along the Y axis relative to the guide base with a Y mover, the Y mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage; wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the X axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the X axis, and wherein the conductor length is at least as long as the combination of the X stroke along the X axis plus the magnet length and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the X axis over the range of the X stroke.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the step of moving the stage includes the step of providing a reaction component that includes the magnet and the step of providing a moving component that includes the conductor.

29. (Original) A method for making an exposure apparatus that forms an image on a wafer, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an irradiation apparatus that irradiates the wafer with radiation to form the image on the wafer; and

providing the stage assembly made by the method of claim 27.

30. (Original) A method of making a wafer utilizing the exposure apparatus made by the method of claim 29.

31. (Original) A method of making an object including at least the exposure process; wherein the exposure process utilizes the exposure apparatus made by the method of claim 29.

32. (Previously added) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of moving the stage an X stroke along the X axis relative to the guide base with an X mover.

33. (Previously added) A stage assembly that moves a device along a first axis and along a second axis, the stage assembly comprising:

a guide base;

a stage that retains the device;

a first mover that moves the stage a first stroke along the first axis relative to the guide base; and

a second mover that moves the stage along the second axis relative to the guide base, the second mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage, wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the first axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the first axis, wherein the conductor length is sufficiently long so that the conductor interacts with the magnet over the range of the first stroke and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the first axis over the range of the first stroke, and wherein the conductor length is at least as long as the combination of the first stroke along the first axis plus the magnet length.

34. (Previously added) The stage assembly of claim 33 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets and the moving component includes a plurality of spaced apart conductors.

35. (Previously added) The stage assembly of claim 33 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart conductors and the moving component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets.

36. (Previously added) An exposure apparatus including the stage assembly of claim 33.

37. (Previously added) An object manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 36.

38. (Previously added) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 36.

39. (Previously added) A stage assembly that moves a device along a first axis and along a second axis, the stage assembly comprising:

a guide base;

a stage that retains the device;

a first mover that moves the stage a first stroke along the first axis relative to the guide base; and

a second mover that moves the stage along the second axis relative to the guide base, the second mover including a reaction component and a moving component that is secured to the stage, wherein one of the components includes a magnet having a magnet length that extends along the first axis and the other component includes a conductor having a conductor length along the first axis, wherein the magnet length is sufficiently long so that the magnet interacts with the conductor over the range of the first stroke and there is relative movement between the conductor and the magnet along the first axis over the range of the first stroke, and wherein the magnet length is at least as long as the combination of the first stroke along the first axis plus the conductor length.

40. (Previously added) The stage assembly of claim 39 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets and the moving component includes a plurality of spaced apart conductors.

41. (Previously added) The stage assembly of claim 39 wherein the reaction component includes a plurality of spaced apart conductors and the moving component includes a plurality of spaced apart magnets.

42. (Previously added) An exposure apparatus including the stage assembly of claim 39.

43. (Previously added) An object manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 42.

44. (Previously added) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 42.

45. (New) A stage assembly that moves a device along an X axis and a Y axis, the stage assembly comprising:

a guide base;

a stage that retains the device; and

a stage mover assembly connected to the stage, the stage mover assembly moving the stage along the X axis and along the Y axis relative to the guide base, the stage mover assembly includes a Y housing mover that moves the stage along the Y axis, the Y housing mover including a magnet that is substantially fixed relative to the guide base and a conductor that is secured to the stage, the conductor moving relative to the magnet array; wherein the magnet has a magnet length that extends along the X axis and the conductor has a conductor length along the X axis and wherein the magnet length is greater than the combination of the stroke of the stage along the X axis and the conductor length.